

SPIDER MITE *Control Strategies*

Importance: Spider Mites are not insects but tiny Arachnids that include Twospotted, European red, Southern red, Spruce spider mites, and others. Some species thrive in cooler temperatures (Spruce, Southern red) while others are more active in the warm season (Twospotted, European red). They damage leaves by piercing and sucking out the contents of plant cells. Damaged leaves appear speckled, and under heavy infestations leaves can be bronzed and covered with webbing.

Identification: Spider mites have eight legs, an oval body, no antennae, and have the ability to excrete fine webbing. They are most commonly found on the underside of leaves, and while small, the mites and their cast skins are visible to the naked eye. Scouting for mites can be done by examining the underside of leaves with a hand lens or shaking leaves over a piece of paper. Plant-feeding mites typically leave a green streak when crushed against paper, while predatory mites leave a yellow or orange streak.

Life Cycle: The spider mite lifecycle starts as an egg, then larvae, 2 stages of nymphs, and finally the adult stage. A single generation of Twospotted spider mites can range from 20 days to as few as 5 days, with warmer temperatures speeding the lifecycle. Depending on the species and conditions, mites will either overwinter as eggs or adult females.

Control: Many insecticides will not control spider mites, so care should be taken when selecting effective miticides. Some miticides kill only adults, some just eggs and juveniles, while others can control all life stages. Systemic and translaminar chemistries can be beneficial since direct exposure is needed for contact-only miticides and thorough coverage can be difficult to attain. Spray adjuvants like Capsil can increase performance. Rotating MOA groups is critical to avoid resistance buildup. Biological control options are available, such as predatory mites, ladybeetles, and midges.



See back for more information...

For more information or to place an order

Please contact your BFG Sales Representative or our Customer Service Team!



Biological Controls

Phytoseiulus persimilis, Amblyseius californicus & andersoni.



Judo 8oz OHP984800



(Spiromesifen) MOA 23 Caution 12 HR REI RATE: 1-2oz/100gal Translaminar movement. Controls all life stages. Do not apply to Geraniums, Dracaena, New Guinea Impatiens, Roses.



Sultan 16oz BAS59013978



(Cyflumetofen) MOA 25 Caution 12 HR REI RATE: 13.7oz/100gal Labeled for Greenhouse & Nursery. Controls all life stages. Contact only. Quick knock down, soft on beneficials, no reports of phytotoxicity.



Akari SC 32oz SEPROAKARI



(Fenpyroximate) MOA 21A Warning 12 HR REI RATE: 16-24oz/100gal Contact only, feeding stops immediately. Controls all life stages. Labeled for Greenhouse & Nursery and can be applied to cucumbers, tomatoes, and peppers.



Avid 1gal SYN15128 32oz SYN81141



(Abamectin) MOA 6 12 HR REI RATE: 4oz/100gal Translaminar movement. Controls adults and juveniles, not eggs. Control may be enhanced with addition of <0.5% horticultural oil on oil tolerant plants.



Floramite SC 32oz OHP982718



(Bifenazate) MOA UN Caution 12 HR REI RATE: 4-8oz/100gal Contact only. Controls all life stages. Soft on beneficials Labeled for Greenhouse & Nursery as well as GH tomatoes.



Kontos 250ML OHP984968



(Spirotetramat) MOA 23 Caution 24 HR REI RATE: 1.7-3.4oz/100gal Fully systemic in xylem and phloem, activity by ingestion. Spray or drench. Labeled for Greenhouse & Nursery as well as vegetable transplants. Avoid applications to Geranium, Orchid, Hoya, Dracaena, Ferns.



Pylon 16oz BAS59012156 64oz BAS59012566



(Chlorfenapyr) MOA 13 Caution 12 HR REI RATE: 2.6-5.2 oz/100gal. Translaminar activity. Controls adults and juveniles, not eggs. Labeled for Greenhouse use only, including vegetables. Avoid applications to Dianthus, Poinsettia, Rose, Salvia, and Zinnia.



Hexygon DF 60oz GOW16724



(Hexythiazox) MOA 10A Caution 12 HR REI RATE: 2oz/100gal Controls eggs and immature mites, contacted adults lay non-viable eggs. Contact activity with long lasting residual activity.



Tetrasan 1lb VAL69760.084



(Etoxazole) MOA 25 Caution 12 HR REI RATE: 13.7oz/100gal Strong translaminar activity. Controls eggs and immature mites. Labeled for Greenhouse & Nursery as well as indoor tomatoes.



Shuttle O 16oz OHP987400



(Acequinocyl) MOA 20B Caution 12 HR REI RATE: 6.4-12.8oz/100gal Contact activity. Controls all life stages. Labeled for Greenhouse & Nursery as well as greenhouse vegetables (no cucurbits). Avoid applications to impatiens, mini roses.